

Organization of the Sister's Society for Christian Endeavor.

By motion of the General Convention of the Brethren Church, held at Ashland, O., September 21, 22 and 23, 1887, the chair was appointed to re-construct a committee on Woman's Work. The committee thus appointed, consisted of Mrs. Bessie Perry, Miss M. M. Sterling, Mrs. A. L. Garber, Mrs. J. H. Knepper, Miss Sadie Trent, Mrs. A. J. Sterling and Mrs. Josiah Keim. Which committee presented six resolutions to said convention for its approval. The report was adopted. It was the decision of the convention to elect the required organization from the sisters who made the report. The Board is as follows:

Mary M. Sterling, Pres.; Sarah Keim, Treas.; Bessie Perry, Sec.; Mary E. Garber, Cor. Sec'y.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMAN'S WORK, ADOPTED BY THE BRETHREN CONVENTION, A. D. 1887.

WHEREAS, The sisters of the Brethren church are not doing as efficient work as they could were they more fully in sympathy with each other; therefore:

Resolved, 1. That we effect an organization to be known as the Sister's Society for Christian Endeavor.

2. That the present object of this Society be to obtain money for defraying the expenses of an Evangelist. This Evangelist is to be sent to places where there are no organized churches or where they are too weak to defray the necessary expenses.

3. That we request this Convention to appoint a board of sisters to consist of Chairman, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. This board not to reside too far apart.

4. We further recommend that the delegates of the convention be instructed to have the sisters of their respective churches form branch societies bearing the same name. Their societies to raise funds for the accomplishment of this object. These funds to be sent to the Treasurer of the central board.

5. That the Corresponding Secretary of this board make quarterly reports through the EVANGELIST.

6. And that these societies correspond with the central board whose duty will be to answer questions or if requested suggest ways by which funds may be secured.

SISTER'S COMMITTEE.

CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

Being deeply impressed with the importance of Woman's Work; believing it is the performance of Christian duties; awake to its necessity in our churches; knowing that unorganized it fails to reach a perfection which otherwise it might attain; desirous of accomplishing this for Christ's sake; believing that by uniting ourselves together, succeed in making ourselves happier and our race better, we, the sisters of the respective congregations of the Brethren Church, grateful unto an Infinite God for this indefeasible right, humbly invoking his guidance, supplicating his blessings upon our labors, do ordain and establish this Constitution for our government, hereby effecting a national association, designated as the Sister's Society for Christian Endeavor.

ARTICLE I. NAME.

This organization shall be denominated the Sisters' Society for Christian Endeavor of the — congregation of the Brethren Church, branch to the Sisters' National Society for Christian Endeavor.

ARTICLE II. OBJECT.

The object of this society shall be an agency "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP.

The payment of one dollar per year, by semi-annual installments in advance, with the privilege of free-will offerings at any time, secures to one person the right of active membership in this society.

Gentlemen, each paying one dollar annually, may become honorary members.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS.

One President, one Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, elected annually, shall constitute the executors for the administration of affairs pertaining to this society.

ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Section 1. President. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of this organization; supervise its general work; devise plans for its advancement; contrive ways by which its funds may be increased; secure literary intelligence; superintend public meetings for prayer, conference and praise; bring to discussion all moral and religious questions agitating the association in general; present information, advice and instruction given by the members of the Sisters' Board of Christian Endeavor; control annual election of officers at the regular meeting of this society before the first day of October.

The Vice President shall carefully perform all these duties in the absence of this official.

Section 2. Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a neat and accurate journal of all meetings; file all reports; conduct correspondence; make annual reports to the Cor. Sec'y of the Board.

Section 3. Treasurer. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to superintend the collection of dues; keep a clear and correct account between the society and its members; hold all funds committed to her, subject to the will of the society, pay bills and cash orders with the signatures of the President and Secretary; read at each regular meeting the amounts of all moneys taken in and paid out by her; remit semi-annually, or oftener at the pleasure of the society, all money designated for that purpose directly to the Treasurer of the Board; present her receipt in the first session after its reception; at the last meeting of her official term make a full report of all receipts and expenditures, and immediately deliver to her successor in office all funds and books of the society in her possession, taking receipts for the same.

ARTICLE VI. FUNDS.

One half of all money deposited in the treasury of this society shall be retained and used to promote its interests and purposes; the other half shall be remitted to the Treasurer of the Sisters' Board for Christian Endeavor to be appropriated to the organization and progress of these societies, and the advancement of home and foreign missions.

ARTICLE VII. DEPARTMENTS.

This society shall have different departments of work as provided for by the National Convention of the Brethren Church.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS.

This society shall ratify any amendment or amendments to this Constitution passed by a majority of all the delegates from the respective societies forming this compact—each society being entitled to three delegates—present and voting in general assemblage at a national convention of this association: *Provided*, That it and every other society under this government had been duly informed, in writing, of the nature and extent of such proposed amendment or amendments, one year before the time of sanction.

BY-LAWS.

MEETINGS.

1. The society, auxiliary to the Sisters' National Society for Christian Endeavor, shall hold its regular meetings once a month, looking to the moral, intellectual and spiritual growth of its members.

2. The members shall then pay their dues to the Treasurer; read their reports; be permitted to make free-will offerings; graciously receive new members; confer together concerning the work; execute plans by which money may be obtained; receive and impart instruction; distribute literature; discuss subjects and methods presented by the officers and members of the Board; look to God in thanksgiving and supplication.

3. Special meetings, when duty demands, may be called by the President.

4. Business can be transacted at any regular meeting.

5. Delinquency in office shall be duly filled.

6. The majority shall be vested with the whole power, if acting in accordance with the original principles of the compact.

7. This society shall be governed by the Golden Rule.

8. The New Testament shall be recognized as its only creed.

9. The Bible shall be considered as the highest standard of morality.

COMMITTEES.

10. At the first regular meeting after her election the President shall appoint three standing committees: an executive committee, of which the Vice President shall be chairman; a committee on solicitation, of which the Treasurer shall be chairman; a committee on program, of which the President, *ex officio*, shall be chairman, unless otherwise provided.

11. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to provide for place of meeting; if required see to ornamenting, heating and lighting this hall;

transact other business that may be referred to it.

12. It shall be the duty of the Soliciting Committee to present the object and purposes of this society, personally, to all members of the congregation, requesting them to become active or honorary members; solicit and collect subscriptions for the EVANGELIST and other publications, by which the members may become acquainted with the general working of this association.

13. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Program to prepare a specialty for each meeting, that the society be kept active, earnest, energetic.

REPORTS.

14. The Secretary shall at the first regular meeting of each quarter, read to this society for its approval a full report of meetings held, work done, money taken into the society and forward the same to the Cor. Sec'y of the Board for publication in the EVANGELIST.

FEEs.

15. Each member shall pay into the treasury of this society the sum of one dollar per year, installments in advance; fifty cents per half term, twenty-five cents per quarter, ten cents per month.

16. The order of the exercises shall be similar to the following:

Devotional Services, Calling Roll, Approving Minutes, Special Program, Free-will Offerings, Reading Reports, Miscellaneous Business, General Work, Closing Exercises, Adjournment.

17. Any one of these By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular meeting of this society, a month's notice of such alterations or amendment having been given.

Gratis, Ohio.

Possibly a little news from this part of the Lord's vineyard may be interesting to some one within the reach of the EVANGELIST, and as I today had the privilege of listening to another interesting sermon from Bro. Tombaugh, I feel induced to write a few lines that will serve, at least, to break this long silence, which most likely is due to a certain timidity that seems to exist among our brethren and sisters. It is not incompetency I know, or I should quickly take a back seat; neither can I say a lack of zeal, for we have some earnest workers, who I believe have passed the stage of religious infancy and have become full grown Christian men and women, (spiritually) by manifesting a deep interest in any work pertaining to the Master's cause, as well as in the completion of our new church, which is drawing near. We expect to have it ready for dedication by the 1st of March. Bro. J. H. Worst, I hear, is the minister elected for the dedicatory sermon. Just now I wonder if Bro. Mason and wife will favor us with a visit then too.

I hope many of our brethren and sisters from a distance will be with us on that occasion. Those were very interesting little letters in the children's department of this last issue, No. 4. Glad to see them return. Come little children, write again; your letters are interesting to many "Uncles" and "Aunties."

I wish the editors much success, with the EVANGELIST, and that in this Ohio's centennial year it will surpass all previous years, in religious essays, and letters that will ring with glorious tidings from shore to shore. How many of us will be found not only ready to echo Sister Clara Flora's sentiments expressed in EVANGELIST No. 4, but willing to act accordingly and thereby obey a scriptural command.

And judge none lost; but wait and see
With hopeful pity, not disdain;
The depth of the abyss may be
The measure of the height of pain,
And love and glory that may raise
These souls to God in after days.

NANNIE A. ENGLAR.

Gratis, Ohio, Jan. 29, 1888.

Wherever is love and loyalty, great purposes and lofty souls, even though in a hovel or a mine, there is fairy-land.—Kingsley.

Faith lights through the dark to Deity.—Davenant.

Men are safe who are approved of God, and can await God's time for their promotion.

Nature the vicar of the Almighty Lord.—Chaucer.